

# Montana State Legislature

## **2015 SESSION ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS**

Business Page [Signed by Chairman]

Roll Call

Standing Committee Reports

Tabled Bills

Fiscal Reports

Rolls Call Votes

Proxy Forms

Visitor Registrations

\*Any other documents, which were submitted after the committee hearing was ended and/or was submitted late [within 48 hours], but regarding information in the committee hearing. Witness Statements that were not presented as exhibits.

**Montana Historical Society Archives**

**225 N. Roberts**

**Helena MT 59620-1201**

**2015 Legislative**

**E-Document Specialist Susie Hamilton**

## **BUSINESS REPORT**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**Date:** Monday, January 26, 2015  
**Place:** Capitol

**Time:** 3:00 PM  
**Room:** 137

#### **BILLS and RESOLUTIONS HEARD:**

HB 196 - Generally revise laws related to tribal colleges and other community colleges - Rep. Susan Webber

HB 248 - Revise contracting laws for community colleges - Rep. Kenneth Holmlund

HB 303 - Revise laws related to recall petitions for school board members - Rep. Willis Curdy

#### **EXECUTIVE ACTION TAKEN:**

#### **Comments:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
REP. Sarah Laszloffy, Chair

**MONTANA House of Representatives**  
**Visitors Register**  
**HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**Monday, January 26, 2015**

**HB 196** - Generally revise laws related to tribal colleges and other community colleges

Sponsor: Rep. Susan Webber

PLEASE PRINT

Name	Representing	Support	Oppose	Info
Rep. Brad Smith	HD 31	✓		
Clara M. Brato	AN College	✓		
Alana Gunderson	AN College	✓		
Linda Miller	AN College	✓		
Joseph E. McDonald	Salish Kootenai College	✓		
James Elver	Salish Kootenai College	✓		
Jonah Green	ANV college	✓		
Janeal McDonald	SKC	✓		
Robert DeBel	SKC	✓		
Wayne Soler	SKC	✓		
Don W. Dunlison	SKC	✓		
Cecelia Moskeler	SKC	X		
Kathryn McDonald	SKC	X		
Juan Perez	SKC	✓		
Brad Hall	Blackfoot Community College	✓		
George Lynn		✓		
Kevin McRae	Montana University System			✓
Laura John	MT Budget & Policy Center	✓		
Jason Smith	Gov Office of Indian Affairs	✓		
Senator L. Whitford	SD 8	✓		
Senator Sharon Stewart Perry	SD 21	✓		
Debra Parson	OPZ	✓		
Bob Perry	SKC	✓		

Please leave prepared testimony with Secretary. Witness Statement forms are available if you care to submit written testimony.

Alissa Snow

Western Native Voice

✓

**MONTANA House of Representatives**  
**Visitors Register**  
**HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**Monday, January 26, 2015**

## HB 303 - Revise laws related to recall petitions for school board members

Sponsor: **Rep. Willis Curdy**

**PLEASE PRINT**

[illegible]

**Please leave prepared testimony with Secretary. Witness Statement forms are available if you care to submit written testimony.**



**MONTANA House of Representatives**  
**Visitors Register**  
**HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**Monday, January 26, 2015**

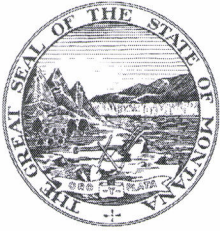
## HB 248 - Revise contracting laws for community colleges

Sponsor: **Rep. Kenneth Holmlund**

**PLEASE PRINT**

[illegible]

**Please leave prepared testimony with Secretary. Witness Statement forms are available if you care to submit written testimony.**



## The Big Sky Country

EX-100  
DATE 1-26-15  
HB 196

## MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

# Witness Statement

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE

PLEASE PRINT

NAME: Kayla Johnson

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: 1-26-15

WHOM DO YOU REPRESENT? Salish Kootenai College ~ student

SUPPORT: ✓ OPPOSE: \_\_\_\_\_ AMEND: \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS:

see attached

[illegible]

Honorable Sarah Laszloffy, Chairperson  
Education Committee  
House of Representatives  
Montana Legislature  
PO Box 200400  
Helena, MT 59620

Re: Non-Beneficiary Students Support for HB 196, Section 2

Dear Chairperson Laszloffy and House Education Committee Members:

My name is Kayla Johnson. My hometown is Florence, MT and I am majoring in Tribal Historic Preservation at Salish Kootenai College (SKC). As a Montana resident non-beneficiary student, I support House Bill 196, Section 2, for Montana's Tribal Colleges.

It is my fourth year attending Salish Kootenai College (SKC) and I could not be any happier with the quality education I have received there. Within these four years I have maintained a 4.0 GPA and have earned my Associate's in Fine Arts and my Associate's in Tribal Historic Preservation, which I will be awarded this June. Next June, I will receive my Bachelor's in Tribal Historic Preservation and will either continue on to graduate school, or find a job working for a tribal government.

I chose SKC for various different reasons, but one of the top being the implication of culture and tradition that are incorporated into their teachings at the college. When I first enrolled at SKC I was an Art major, so naturally I was also interested in art and more specifically native art. Now, that I am in this new program my need to learn more about culture and tradition are being fulfilled.

Along with being a full-time student, I am also a starter on the women's Lady Bison Basketball team, a Student Representative on the Student Senate, and I have a part-time work-study job at the Salish Kootenai College Foundation. This college has provided me with all of these opportunities, while letting me receive a quality education.

Salish Kootenai College is amazing, it provides so many different activities and programs that students can utilize. These include family activities, scholarship workshops, study nights, and many more. Our college truly cares about each and every student's success and is like a family away from home. I love my college and all the amazing people there.

Because SKC is such an exceptional college I feel support House Bill 196, Section 2. My parents are Montana taxpayers and as such I believe I, and all others like me, should be allowed this right. I ask that you please vote in support of Section 2 of LB 196 because it is the right thing to do.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Kayla Johnson

Cc: House Education Committee Members







Honorable Sarah Laszloffy, Chairperson  
Education Committee  
House of Representatives  
Montana Legislature  
PO Box 200400  
Helena, MT 59620

Re: Non-Beneficiary Students Support for HB 196, Section 2

Dear Chairperson Laszloffy and House Education Committee Members:

My name is Brandon Dunkerson. My hometown is Ronan, Montana, and I am majoring in Psychology at Salish Kootenai College (SKC). As a Montana resident non-beneficiary student, I support House Bill 196, Section 2, for Montana's Tribal Colleges.

Attending Salish Kootenai College (SKC) has helped me personally in many ways. SKC has opened many doors for me. It has enable me access to an education I never would have been able to consider due to my young family, because its location is near to my home. The location of SKC also provided my fiancé the opportunity to attend as well. We could never have both attended one of our state universities, community colleges, or technical colleges due to our family needs and location. As a veteran with multiple activations to include Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New Dawn, and Operation Noble Eagle as well as state emergency activations and current Non-Commissioned Officer in the Montana National Guard, the military friendly atmosphere at SKC has allowed me to not only become a better educated leader, but a liaison to veterans in our community. SKC staff and faculty have shown full support in helping me bolster the veterans' programs in and around the Mission Valley. The commitment that the faculty and staff at SKC have shown to me is top notch. I believe this is leading me to be a better student. Attending SKC has enabled me to see a different worldview than I would have received at any other community college or university. By bolstering a sense of cultural awareness, I have become not only a better student, but a better person. With the fine education I am receiving at SKC, I believe that my goal of being a counselor to fellow combat veterans is fully obtainable.

As a Montana taxpayer, I believe that the legislature should provide funding for non-beneficiary students so that we can continue to receive the quality, culturally-aware education that Salish Kootenai College provides. This funding should be at the same level as the legislature authorizes for students attending all other Montana colleges. Please note that Salish Kootenai College and Montana's six other tribal colleges are accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU), just like the Institutions of the Montana University System and the state's three other community colleges. In short, voting in support of House Bill 196, Section 2, is the right thing to do for Montana students.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brandon Dunkerson', with a stylized, cursive script.

Brandon Dunkerson  
Cc: House Education Committee Members



Honorable Sarah Laszloffy, Chairperson  
Education Committee  
House of Representatives  
Montana Legislature  
PO Box 200400  
Helena, MT 59620

Re: Non-Beneficiary Students Support for HB 196, Section 2

Dear Chairperson Laszloffy and House Education Committee Members:

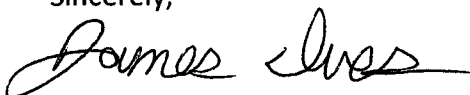
My name is James Ives. My hometown is Hamilton, MT. I am majoring in Elementary Education at Salish Kootenai College (SKC). As a Montana resident non-beneficiary student, I support House Bill 196, Section 2, for Montana's Tribal Colleges.

I am 32 years old and in 2013 I decided to transition into the career of teaching, so I enrolled at the University of Montana. A major requirement for my return to school was employment for my wife. She obtained employment at the Polson Middle School and shortly thereafter, we discovered Salish Kootenai College. I found that SKC offered everything I needed and was located close to Polson. I am so thankful that I am receiving such a high quality education at SKC. The class sizes are small, and the instructors are very professional. The teachers clearly care deeply about their students. However, the most valuable education I am receiving is the cultural experience with Montana's Tribes available to me here at SKC. I have begun to learn about the people and history of my home, which is not only valuable to me as a person, but as a future educator. This education is authentic as well. I am not learning about the Salish, Kootenai and other tribes throughout the U.S. from books, instead I have the opportunity to get to know them face to face and go through my educational experience side by side, and largely through their perspective.

I have been in construction, paying taxes for 14 years, as a member of the Montana workforce. Therefore, I believe the request to receive funding for non-beneficiary students attending tribal colleges at equal levels with the state's other educational institutions is a fair request. The future of the State of Montana and the Tribes that call this place home are forever linked together, and the educational opportunities for non-beneficiary students attending Tribal Colleges exist nowhere else. Please fully support these valuable institutions through voting in support of House Bill 196, Section 2.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Ives". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" being more prominent than the last name "Ives".

James Ives

Cc: House Education Committee Members